



PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10416/18

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Naoki Mukaida  
Serial No.: 10/032,949 Examiner: Inoa, Midys  
Filed: December 26, 2001 Group Art Unit: 2188  
Title: MEMORY CONTROLLER, FLASH MEMORY SYSTEM  
HAVING MEMORY CONTROLLER AND METHOD FOR  
CONTROLLING FLASH MEMORY DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the final Office action of November 4, 2004, and is timely filed with a one month extension.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Estakhri et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,835,935) in view of Konishi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,579,502). Claims 1, 10, and 20 have been amended. No new claims have been added. No claims have been deleted. Applicant respectfully contends that the differences between the claimed invention and the cited references are such that the claimed invention is patentably distinct over the cited references.